As regards your suggestion to appoint an Inspectress of Girls' Schools to supervise Mahomedan schools, the number of such schools is small and there is hardly any necessity for such an appointment.

MEMBER : One of the objects for which I ask for the appointment of an inspectress is to carry on propaganda work among the members of our community.

PRESIDENT : That I think had better be left to the leaders of the community.

Then in regard to the introduction of the teaching of Hindi in schools, I do not know how the matter stands. I shall look into it.

168. Needs of the Muslims.

MR. M. MUHOMMED HUSSAIN (*Member, Municipal Council, Padmanabhapuram*) said that Muslims were poorly represented in the Registration, Excise and Police Departments. There were several qualified pleaders among the Muslims, who the member stated could be appointed in these departments. As regards the Judicial Department, the rules regarding experience at the bar was standing as an obstacle in the way of many Muslim vakils. In view of the backward condition of the community it was necessary that Government should relax this rule in their case. So far as the Excise and Police Departments were concerned, several Muslim officers had already done good work in these departments. Qualified Muslim candidates who were practising as pleaders might be appointed in these departments. The member also said that in the matter of appointments, so far as Muslims were concerned, Government should not make any distinction between sects within the community. Once they made such a distinction, they should give preference to the Non-Dakni sects. These were immensely larger in number than the others and were the real sons of the soil. Most of the qualified men also belonged to these sects. They had therefore to be preferred to the other sects. The member felt constrained to say so much on this point because Government seemed to favour the policy of giving separate representation to Dakni Muhommedans.

Next, the member said that Government should introduce compulsory primary education among the Muslims.

Under the existing rules, Arabic munshis were appointed only in schools where there were not less than twenty-five Muhommedan pupils. The working of this rule caused hardship to many Muslim boys. The member urged for the minimum number of boys in a school for the appointment of munshis being reduced to fifteen. In the vernacular primary school at Thuckalai there were more than thirty Muslim pupils, but no Arabic munshi was yet appointed there. A munshi should be appointed by the next school year.

PRESIDENT'S REPLY: Mr. Muhammad Hussain, as regards the representation of the members of the several communities in the publice service, Government have clearly enunciated their policy. All that I can say is that it will not be departed from. When the system of recruitment and promotion in the Judicial Department is revised as indicated in the Dewan's opening address, I am sure the claims of the Mahomedan community will not be lost sight of. You say that no Arabic Munshi has been appointed in the vernacular school, Tuckalai. In regard to this, the Director of Public Instruction points out that the school being only of the primary grade, it is entitled to have on its staff only a Koran teacher on Rs. 10 per mensem, and not an Arabic Munshi.

MEMBER : Even a Koran teacher has not been entertained in that school.

PRESIDENT : The attention of the Director will be invited to this.

In regard to the appointment of men from the Dakni section, Government have not given any such undertaking as you say.

169. Concessions to the Muslim community.

MR. H. B. MUHOMMED ROWTHER (*Member, Nominated*) spoke of the following needs of the Muslims:—

(1) Muslims should be given more appointments in the Judicial Department.

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(2) An education board should be appointed to assist the Muhommedan Inspector of Schools.

(3) Managers of private schools should be instructed to give the same concessions to Muslim pupils in their schools as were given to the pupils in Government schools.

(4) Three Muslims in the least should be given foreign scholarships by Government.

(5) All Muslim schools should be declared open to all communities.

(6) A non-official Muslim member should be appointed on the Text-book Committee.

(7) Girl pupils of classes V, VI and VII in vernacular schools should be granted the same scholarships as were granted in English schools.

(8) No Maktabs should be allowed to be conducted except with the recognition of Government.

(9) The Muhommedan Inspector of Schools should be empowered to appoint and transfer munshees.

(10) The status and pay of the Muhommedan Inspector of Schools should be raised.

(11) Arabic mushees in grant-in-aid schools should be given the same grants as were given to other teachers.

(12) Arabic munshees should not teach any subject other than the Arabic language.

(13) Muslim girls' schools should be opened by Government at all places where there were a good number of Muslim inhabitants.

(14) Arabic Munshees should be appointed in the schools at Chavara and North Parur.

(15) The grants given to teachers in night schools should, as far as Muslims were concerned, be made the same as that for the teachers in other schools.

(16) A Muslim Inspectress of Schools should be appointed for encouraging education among Muslim girls.

(17) A training school should be opened for Arabic Munshees.

(18) A Muslim girl should be deputed to any of the western universities for higher studies in medicine.

(19) Two Muslim representatives should be nominated to the Legislative Council.

In this connection, the member also offered to open an orphanage with accommodation for one hundred boys at Pattanamtitta, provided he was given one hundred acres of swampy lands in that taluk. He undertook to give 25 acres of land for the orphanage and to provide the necessary buildings and accessories himself.

PRESIDENT'S REPLY : Mr. Mahomed Rowther, I have nothing to add to what has already been stated by the Dewan on this subject in reply to a similar representation in this session of the Assembly.

170. Needs of the Muslim community.

MR. M. K. ABDUL RAHIMAN KUTTI (*Member, Nominated*) said that Muslims were not getting due representation in the public service. Though Government had issued orders recognising the principle of communal representation in the public service, these orders were being openly set at naught by the subordinate officers. There were also many Muslims who had secured appointments in some departments, for instance, the Excise and the Police Departments, but who were not getting sufficient encouragement. So far as the Judicial Department was concerned, Muslims who had passed the second grade pleaders' test should be appointed

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